

108TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. CON. RES. 474

Expressing the sense of Congress that the Federal Government should not give any Federal agency the power to postpone the date of Federal elections.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 15, 2004

Mr. SMITH of Michigan submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on House Administration

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress that the Federal Government should not give any Federal agency the power to postpone the date of Federal elections.

Whereas Election Assistance Commission Chairman DeForest Soaries has proposed a policy for allowing the alteration of the schedule for Federal elections in the event of an unspecified emergency;

Whereas the United States has never postponed or delayed a Federal election for any reason, even during the Civil War;

Whereas Condoleeza Rice, the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs, has stated that the Administration has no intention of altering the schedule for Federal elections and expects the elections to occur as scheduled;

Whereas the American people have a longstanding and legitimate expectation that regularly scheduled Federal elections will continue to be held in accordance with Federal law; and

Whereas keeping the schedule for Federal elections is necessary to maintain confidence in the legitimacy of the Presidency and Congress both in the United States and around the world: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
 2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of Congress that—

3 (1) the Federal Government should not give any
 4 Federal agency the power to postpone the date of
 5 Federal elections; and

6 (2) the Secretary of Homeland Security should
 7 not act on the proposal submitted by Election As-
 8 sistance Commission Chairman DeForest Soaries.

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